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Attorney Docket No. P70650US0
Application No. 10/539,627**Amendments to the claims:**

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of claims:

Claims 1-21 (canceled).

22 (new): A synthetic compound having biological activity against HIV infection, wherein the compound is a peptide having amino acid sequence (LEAIPCSIPPEFLFGKPFVF)₂ (SEQ ID NO: 86), a conservatively substituted variant of the peptide containing a maximum of two cysteine residues, or an amidated, alkylated, acylated, sulfated, pegylated, phosphorylated, or glycosylated derivative of the peptide.

23 (new): The compound of claim 22 wherein the cysteine residues are connected by an intermolecular disulfide bond, forming a homo-dimer.

24 (new): The compound of claim 22 wherein the leucine residue at amino acid position 1 and the glutamic acid at amino acid position 2 are covalently linked by an N-alkylated amide bond or by

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an ester bond or by a reduced peptide bond or by a retro-inverso peptide bond or by an N-alkylated retro-inverso peptide bond.

25 (new): The compound of claim 22 that interacts with the fusion peptide of HIV.

26 (new): The compound of claim 22 having an IC_{50} equal or below 6500 nM.

27 (new): The compound of claim 22 having an IC_{50} equal or below 2000 nM.

28 (new): The compound of claim 22 having an IC_{50} equal or below 800 nM.

29 (new): A medicament comprising, in combination with a medicinally acceptable carrier or diluent, compound of claim 22, a nucleic acid coding for the compound, or an antibody binding specifically to the compound.

30 (new): The medicament of claim 29 in a galenic formulation for oral administration.

31 (new): The medicament of claim 29 in a galenic formulation for intravenous, intramuscular, intracutaneous, subcutaneous, or intrathecal administration.

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- 32 (new): The medicament of claim 29 as an aerosol for transpulmonary administration.
- 33 (new): The medicament of claim 29 further comprising at least one additional therapeutic agent.
- 34 (new): The medicament of claim 29 further comprising at least one additional therapeutic agent, wherein the agent is a viral protease inhibitor, a reverse transcriptase inhibitor, a fusion inhibitor, a cytokine, a cytokine inhibitor, a glycosylation inhibitor, or a viral mRNA inhibitor.
- 35 (new): Use of the compound of claim 29 comprising treatment of HIV infection by administering the compound to a patient in need thereof.
- 36 (new): A diagnostic agent comprising, in combination with a diagnostically acceptable carrier or diluent, the compound of claim 22, a nucleic acid coding for the compound, or an antibody binding specifically to the compound.